

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of laying hot blacktop paving material comprising bitumen-coated aggregate, the method comprising a spreading step during which said material is spread on a surface for receiving it,
the method further comprising, immediately before the spreading step, a step of adding water during which water plus wetting agent is mixed with the blacktop material.
2. A method according to claim 1, in which the water plus wetting agent presents a molar concentration of wetting agent lying in the range 0.1% to 1.5%.
3. A method according to claim 1, in which, during the step of adding water, the water plus wetting agent is added to the blacktop material at a weight concentration of 1% to 5% relative to the weight of the blacktop material.
4. A method according to claim 1, in which the water plus wetting agent is mixed with the blacktop material by kneading.
5. A method according to claim 1, in which the bitumen of the blacktop material is in a non-foamy fluid state during the steps of adding water and spreading.
6. A method according to claim 1, in which the blacktop material is at a temperature lying in the range 60°C to 100°C during the steps of adding water and spreading.
7. A method according to claim 1, in which the blacktop material is at a temperature lying in the range 100°C to 130°C, and preferably about 110°C during the steps of adding water and spreading.

8. Apparatus for implementing a method according to claim
1, the apparatus comprising mixer means receiving the
blacktop material and provided with at least one water
inlet fed with water plus wetting agent, and a spreader
5 device receiving the material from the mixer means and
adapted to spread the blacktop material.

9. Apparatus according to claim 8, including metering
means for metering out the water plus wetting agent.